



WELLFLEET

Barnstable County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Located some seventy five miles out into the Atlantic ocean on the outer end of Cape Cod, the Town of Wellfleet offers an abundance of quaint rural sea-side character and charm. Bounded on the east by the ocean and the west by Cape Cod Bay, 61% of the land area of Wellfleet is in the Cape Cod National Seashore Park.

During the summer, the population swells to an estimated 17,000 persons enjoying the town's miles of ocean and bay-side beaches; numerous beautiful, clear, spring-fed, ponds; many fine art galleries, shops and restaurants; and the magnificent Wellfleet Harbor offering a constantly changing panorama of sail boats, motor yachts, sport fishing boats and trawlers.

An extremely diverse community with an intriguing history of an extraordinary nautical atmosphere, the friendly charm of the Central Village provides the pedestrian with a vast array of browsing, dining, picture-taking and sight-seeing opportunities within a relatively short walk. The town is home of the Cape Cod National Seashore Headquarters as well as the 1,000 acre Massachusetts Audubon Society Wildlife Sanctuary. Some of Cape Cod's finest ocean surf-casting, fresh water pond and Cape Cod Bay boat fishing possibilities are found in Wellfleet, and the town is well-known for its plentiful supply of shellfish, including the famous "Wellfleet Oyster".

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, on the forearm of Cape Cod. Bordered by Truro on the north, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Eastham on the south, and Cape Cod Bay on the west. Wellfleet is about 33 miles north of Hyannis; 101 miles southeast of Boston; 113 miles east of Providence, Rhode Island; and 280 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 35.36 sq. miles

Land Area: 19.84 sq. miles

Population: 2,493

Density: 126 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Provincetown Station)

Normal temperature in January.....29.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.7°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.3"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Wellfleet

Regional Planning Agency

Cape Cod Commission

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 349-0300

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1763

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 1,977

Democrats 727 36.8 % Republicans 377 19.1 % Other parties 0 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 873 44.2 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Wellfleet town, Barnstable County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	2,749	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	2,749	100.0
Male.....	1,296	47.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	19	0.7
Female.....	1,453	52.9	Mexican.....	4	0.1
Under 5 years.....	118	4.3	Puerto Rican.....	5	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	103	3.7	Cuban.....	1	-
10 to 14 years.....	151	5.5	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	9	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	164	6.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	2,730	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	89	3.2	White alone.....	2,641	96.1
25 to 34 years.....	228	8.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	413	15.0	Total population.....	2,749	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	535	19.5	In households.....	2,746	99.9
55 to 59 years.....	189	6.9	Householder.....	1,301	47.3
60 to 64 years.....	162	5.9	Spouse.....	583	21.2
65 to 74 years.....	334	12.1	Child.....	605	22.0
75 to 84 years.....	195	7.1	Own child under 18 years.....	454	16.5
85 years and over.....	68	2.5	Other relatives.....	79	2.9
Median age (years).....	47.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	27	1.0
18 years and over.....	2,259	82.2	Nonrelatives.....	178	6.5
Male.....	1,028	37.4	Unmarried partner.....	84	3.1
Female.....	1,231	44.8	In group quarters.....	3	0.1
21 years and over.....	2,199	80.0	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	702	25.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	3	0.1
65 years and over.....	597	21.7	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	266	9.7	Total households.....	1,301	100.0
Female.....	331	12.0	Family households (families).....	725	55.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	260	20.0
One race.....	2,716	98.8	Married-couple family.....	583	44.8
White.....	2,655	96.6	With own children under 18 years.....	188	14.5
Black or African American.....	26	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	107	8.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	8	0.3	With own children under 18 years.....	54	4.2
Asian.....	10	0.4	Nonfamily households.....	576	44.3
Asian Indian.....	1	-	Householder living alone.....	453	34.8
Chinese.....	-	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	172	13.2
Filipino.....	5	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	279	21.4
Japanese.....	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	433	33.3
Korean.....	2	0.1	Average household size.....	2.11	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.75	(X)
Other Asian ¹	1	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	3,998	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	1,301	32.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	2,697	67.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	2,568	64.2
Some other race.....	16	0.6	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	2.1	(X)
Two or more races.....	33	1.2	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	5.6	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	1,301	100.0
White.....	2,684	97.6	Owner-occupied housing units.....	996	76.6
Black or African American.....	29	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	305	23.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	20	0.7	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.20	(X)
Asian.....	17	0.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.83	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	7	0.3			
Some other race.....	30	1.1			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Wellfleet is situated on Cape Cod, a 65-mile long sandy peninsula comprising Barnstable County. The Cape has excellent highway, rail, bus and air connections to other parts of New England. Air, bus, and passenger rail service expand during the summer months to accommodate the large numbers of tourists.

Major Highways

The principal highway is U.S. Route 6, the Mid Cape Highway.

Rail

There is no freight rail service, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island is easily accessible.

Bus

Wellfleet is a member of the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), which operates a b-bus demand response service.

Other

The Provincetown Municipal Airport in neighboring Provincetown offers scheduled airline service. The facility has a 3,498' long asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision. The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway offers bus service to Hyannis with a connection to Logan Airport.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

Cape Cod National Seashore

South Wellfleet

(508) 349-3785 Ext. 17

Samuel Rider House

Gull Pond Road

(508) 349-3876

Wellfleet Historical Society Museum

Main Street

(508) 349-9157

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.